

Agenda

- 7:30 Registration at Johnny Hunter's in Avert
- 8:00 Johnny Hunter's cover crops and demonstrations
- 9:00 Drive to Bernie to Keith Mayberry's farm
- 9:20 Keith Mayberry's cover crops
- 10:20 Drive to New Madrid to Peter Rost's farm
- 11:00 Peter Rost's cover crops
- 12:00 Lunch provided by RSVP



If you need an accommodation, please contact Steve Crisel by March 6th at (573) 243-1467 Ext 6

Hosted By:

MISSOURI DELTA

SOIL HEALTH ALLIANCE



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

Stoddard County

SWCD



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Stoddard & New Madrid Counties

March 10, 2015

Presented by:

Missouri Delta
Soil Health Alliance



Farm Tours

Johnny Hunter

Johnny Hunter is a third generation farmer from the Essex, MO area. He row crops around 2500 acres and his crops include corn, soybeans, cotton, rice, popcorn and occasionally wheat. Johnny's land is primarily furrow irrigated with a small amount of dryland. Johnny has looked to soil health to help reduce operating costs on his farm. He is using cover crops such as cereal rye, winter oats, annual ryegrass, daikon radish, turnip, yellow sweet clover, hairy vetch and others in different combinations to address his soil's problems. Johnny wants to reduce his dependency on high cost inputs like fertilizer, fuel, herbicides and irrigation costs. He also hopes to be able to farm the same or more acres with far less equipment thanks to his "almost no-till" system. He is still plowing a small irrigation furrow using a specially designed cultivator that disturbs very little soil in his middle. The ultimate goal however is to have a healthy soil that maximizes God given rain and free himself of constant irrigation through the summer months.

To get to Hunter's, from Highway 60:

At the Hwy 153 and N junction of 60, go north on N Highway. Turn left onto AB Highway until you get to Avert. Turn right on County Road 510. Johnny's is the first shop on the right.

Keith Mayberry

Keith Mayberry is a fourth generation farmer and has been farming in Stoddard County since 1985. Currently, he and his family are farming 3,800 acres of irrigated cropland which consists of cotton, corn, popcorn, soybeans and rice.

In 2011, he started raising cover crops on a limited scale. This year they have 2,700 acres planted in cover crops and hope to have all 3,800 acres planted by fall of 2015.

To get from Hunter's to Mayberry's:

Turn left onto AB Highway. Turn right onto N Highway. When N Highway crosses Highway 60, it turns into Highway 153. In approx 7 miles, take D Highway to the right. Turn left onto County Road 751 and the fields will be down about a half mile.

Peter Rost

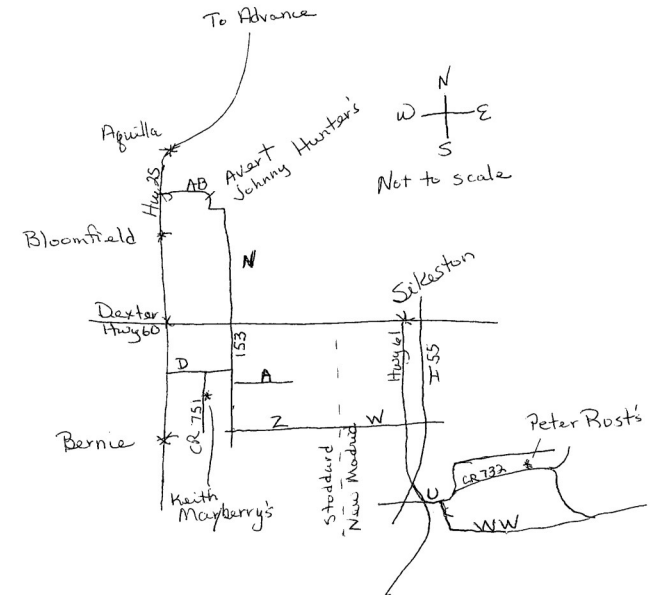
Peter Rost Jr. is a second generation farmer in New Madrid County. After graduating from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1999 with an agriculture degree, he joined his father back on the farm.

Together, they currently farm 3,400 acres of which 1,800 is irrigated. They raise rice, soybeans, corn and wheat. Pete is in the early stages of utilizing cover crops and no-till in his farming operation.

This year he used a couple different blends. Where they were going to beans, he used sweet clover, cereal rye, winter oats, and radishes. Where they were going to corn, they used crimson clover, hairy vetch, sweet clover, annu-

To get from Mayberry's to Rost's:

Turn right onto D Highway. At Highway 153 turn right. In approx. 4 miles, turn left onto Z Highway. As it crosses the line into New Madrid county it will become W Highway. Turn right onto Highway 61. Turn left on U Highway and then right onto County Road 732. Rost's shop will be on the left.



Please RSVP

Lunch Provided if you

RSVP by March 6th:

Stoddard County
SWCD

(573) 624-5939 ext 3